

MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
February 14, 2007

The Lenoir County Transportation Committee met on Wednesday, February 14, 2007 at 8:30 a.m. in the Lenoir County Administration Conference Room at 101 N. Queen Street, Kinston, NC 28502.

Voting members present included: Mr. Russell Rhodes, Chairman; Mr. Chris Humphrey, County Commissioner; Mr. John Craft, Town of LaGrange, Mr. Anthony Mitchell, Mayor of Pink Hill, Mr. Joe Bower, Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Bill Whaley, Economic Development Board.

Non-Voting members present included: Mr. Joey Bryan, for County Manager, Mr. Wayland Humphrey, Lenoir County Planning, Mr. Mark Pope, Economic Development; Mr. Scott Stevens, City of Kinston; Mr. Tommy Lee, City of Kinston Planning Board, Mr. Preston Hunter, NCDOT, Mr. Bruce Parson, GTP Authority Staff and Mr. Adrian King, Pride of Kinston.

Also Present: Mr. Dan Vanliere, RPO Planner, Mr. John Rouse and Lynn White, NCDOT and Ms. Lashanda Aytch, Administrative Secretary

Members absent included Mr. Cam McRae, DOT Board Member; Mr. Van Braxton, State Representative, and Senator Charles Albertson.

Mr. Rhodes called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30 a.m.

Under "Old Business," the North Lenoir High School Access Study was taken off the agenda until further notice.

Mr. Humphrey stated the US 70 Corridor Commission would like the Lenoir County Board of Commissioners to pass a Memorandum of Understanding at their next meeting. The Memorandum would limit development along Hwy. 70 until further notice. Mr. Lee stated he saw several issues regarding the Memorandum of Understanding which are: The preservation of the corridor and making the existing corridor safer, maintaining existing traffic, and limiting number of accesses along the corridor. Mr. Lee stated he would like the committee to support land use controls and preserving the highway corridors. Mr. Rhodes stated he would send out a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding for committee members to review and discuss later on. Mr. Humphrey stated the Memorandum was available for review and www.super70corridor.com site.

Mr. Rhodes asked for clarification of the designation of Hwy. 117 into an Interstate. Mr. Vanliere stated it would be a good idea for the committee to create a resolution to show interest in the designation project. The Committee agreed to approve the concept; Mr. Vanliere stated he would create the Resolution. Mr. Rhodes created a sub-committee consisting of Mr. Lee, Mr. Parson and Mr. Whaley to get more information of corridor overlay on Hwy. 70 & 11.

Industrial Access – Mr. Hunter stated NCDOT is awaiting funding to start the project; this project will alleviate the traffic concerns in the area.

Vacancies – Mr. Rhodes informed the Board of the two vacancies on the committee: An at-large and GTP Authority member are needed ASAP.

Industrial Park Access – Mr. Pope stated he has not heard back from anyone regarding the land issue at the industrial park. Mr. Pope stated he did not want the park to become land locked and inaccessible to other industries.

Bridge Replacement: Bridges NO. 42 & 43 on US 70 Business over the Neuse River; Mr. Rhodes stated NCDOT will be looking to create an on-site detour.

New Business

Mr. Rhodes stated it was time to consider the TIP Priorities Listing for Lenoir County. The committee has to get the priorities to the RPO Board for review by NCDOT; the committee starts now this project could be completed by May.

Upon a motion by Mr. Humphrey and a second by Mr. Rhodes, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:05 a.m.